

None but tax payers could vote on the school tax.

Letting on an election of elects your enemy.

Arbor Day and the fact that throughout the year there is no

C. W. Beckman Arrangement through the American Press Association.

## THE DIAMOND BUTTON

FROM THE DIARY OF A LAWYER AND THE NOTE BOOK OF A REPORTER.

By BARCLAY NORTH.

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CHAPTER VII.  
A DECIDED PRETTY CLIENT.

HE younger of the two entered first.

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get practice, he went into the real estate business."

"I had your son no very intimate friend?"

"Yes, one; but he is in China now and has been for a year."

"Was your son engaged to any young lady or attentive to any one?"

"None that I know of or ever heard of."

The sister confirmed this statement eagerly. It was evident that both were jealous of the supposed young lady.

Finally he asked: "Are you acquainted with a Mr. Witherspoon?"

"Witherspoon? I never heard the name before," replied the mother. "Did you, Annie?"

"No, I never did."

"The name is the name of Ashgrove," continued the lawyer.

"No," said both together.

"Never knew or heard of a young lady named Flora Ashgrove?" I handed it to him and he said: "An invitation to a dinner I went to last week from one of my customers."

"Do you have ladies for customers?" I asked, and he said: "Quite frequently, but his lady writes for her uncle, who has been one of my best customers."

"Never," said the mother.

"The name has a familiar sound," said the girl wonderingly. "Is she not a fashionable young lady of this city whose name is in the papers frequently?"

The lawyer smiled and answered, "Yes."

"Stop!" cried the girl suddenly. "I recollect once when my brother was at home I lifted a coat he had thrown upon a chair, and a letter fell from the pocket signed 'Flora Ashgrove.' I handed it to him and he said: 'An invitation to a dinner I went to last week from one of my customers.'"

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oughly acquainted with it."

"To what end?"

"Want to buy a suit just like it."

"Thank you."

"You think I am fooling?"

"I don't think it, I know it."

"Holbrook, you pass in this city for being one of the ablest of the young lawyers, and yet you can be an awful stupid fool at times."

"Thank you."

"Mean it. Can't you see what I'm driving at?"

"No, I'm blind if I can."

"Well, I'll let you in a little way. The man who knifed Templeton was a cheap suit of clothes who had just purchased—clothes who it for the purpose of a disguise."

"Yes, doubtless."

"After the cutting he ran away, throwing off his coat."

"Good."

"Then he threw off his pantaloons and hat."

"These were found, but no vest."

"All of these chestnuts are proper in form and sold in suitcases."

"Tom paid no attention to the sarcasm, but pulled steadily on his cigar, the fire of which had nearly died out. Restoring it, he continued:

"Suppose I should find a clothes dealer who sold a similar suit too large for the man who bought it, and didn't care for the vest, on the day, or the day previous to the murder, or thereafter?"

"Tom, I beg your pardon."

"Correct. The easiest way to find such a man and such a suit is to go and buy one."

"I see."

"If I had a piece of the cloth I would be happy."

"I'll get it for you."

"You can't, they won't let you cut it."

"Oh, yes, they will."

"That isn't true."

"You're a jewel yourself. When will you do it?"

"Come and see me the day after tomorrow, in the morning."

"All right, I'm in."

"Stop a minute; I want to talk now."

"What is it? I'm in a hurry."

"I want to talk of the Templeton murder."

"Drive ahead."

"Sit down. What I have to say to you is more important than anything you are after."

"You sit down."

"Have you ever heard of a young lady named Flora Ashgrove?"

"Yes, and have seen her, too."

"Do you know the set she goes with?"

"Yes."

"Do you know the association?"

"All of them."

"Who are they?"

"First, there's Henry Holbrook."

"No, he's last; go on."

"Oh, Charlie Gray, Henry Isaline, Fred Rhinehart, Jack Hardy, Elmore Brandt, Steve Ellingwood and that set."

"Can you fall in with them?"

"Easily enough, in one place or another."

"Well, so much on that head. Now, let's talk about the murder."

"My dear boy, if you want to play with me, play an open hand, no half conceits. You can't switch me off in that way."

Holbrook was annoyed.

"Tom, you are too shrewd for me. I can't say any more today on that score. But I want to say this. I am very anxious to get at the bottom of this matter. Half an hour before you came in I had determined to hunt you up. You are already engaged on the affair. I propose to retain you in the matter additionally and give you some assistance. It won't be long before I can give it to you. But not today. When you come to me day after tomorrow I will play an open hand."

"Good, I'm off."

"Dine with me at 6, and afterward let us go to the Casino."

"All right, I'll do that."

"Meet me at 6 sharp at 'De la Cafe.'"

"Good. Now I am off. By-by."

After Tom left the room, Holbrook turned to the window and looked out.

The scene before him, however, was not what interested him. His thoughts had gone back again to that singular interview with the young lawyer.

"Why shouldn't I tell Tom of that conversation?" he asked himself aloud.

"He is trustworthy and shrewd. It is not like talking to a public officer, and he will respect confidence. Suppose the girl is implicated? What then? No obligation rests on me to protect her from her evil deeds. If I decide they are not, and she is not compromised, then they are not. Yes, I'll tell him, and to-night."

"I promised myself to keep out of this affair, and here I am going in full length. So much for the influence of a pair of soft brown eyes. By George, she is a beautiful girl, Annie Templeton! A fellow could be very happy in the love of such a creature."

Then he drummed on the window, lost in pleasant castle building.

Suddenly he started with the exclamation: "Dreaming is not work."

He looked at his watch.

"Half-past three. I have two hours and a half before me."

He caught his hat and hurried out.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Racing to Come This Season.

There will be some big racing during the coming season by the Atlantic greyhounds. It is now settled that the new steamer, the Majestic, sister ship of the Teutonic, will be started from Liverpool regularly nose and nose with the City of Paris. There will be racing regularly then between the Teutonic and the City of New York, and the Majestic and the City of Paris. It is the general belief among steamship men that the latter ship has never developed her highest speed, though she easily holds the best record to-day. She is, by long odds, the favorite.

Gov. D. R. Francis.

From the Jefferson City Tribune.

It is a hard matter to pick up a Missouri paper which does not contain a complimentary notice of Gov. Francis. Every promise made by his friends has been fulfilled to the letter, and so far he has not made a single blunder. Such an administration will not fail to bear good political fruit.

Winco's Good Work.

From the St. Louis Chronicle.

Winco's, the Browns' young first baseman from Mexico, Mo., is doing good practice work. Had not Sweeney shown up rather unexpectedly, Winco would probably have played first base for the Browns this season.

New Catholic Church.

From the Ladonia Herald.

The Catholics have \$600 subscribed toward the erection of the new church building here, and they think they will have no trouble to raise the rest needed. They will build a \$1,000 or \$1,200 house.

Mrs. Wm. D. Harrison is continuing after a severe illness.

## FIVE PER CENT DISCOUNT.

Is the Rate at Which Brokers Cash the Salamander Workmen's Checks.

The Salamander Stove-planting and Fire Brick Co. pays off its hands every Saturday night with certificates of the work done during the week. The first of each month these "checks" are cashed by the company, but here of late certain "brokers" have appeared on the grounds of the company every Saturday evening, proclaiming their willingness to discount the men's checks, giving them 95 per cent. of the amount the check calls for.

The managers of the company were cognizant of the fact, but allowed it to go on, supposing their workmen were being accommodated. Now it is whispered around on all sides that the company has these brokers employed to discount the checks, in order to save money, and that it is done with the funds of the company. Such is not a fact. A reporter for this paper called at the business office of the company to-day and finding the manager, Mr. Dixon, out of town, asked Mr. Robertson, the book-keeper, what he knew of it. This gentleman expressed surprise that such things should be said and avowed his determination to see in the future that no "broker" be allowed on the grounds for the purpose of cashing checks.

This is an unjust accusation against the managers of Mexico's great industry and it is to be hoped the course Mr. Robertson said will put an end to the gossip.

Mexico's Money.

From the St. Louis Rural World.

The Audran County's list of stakes and purses will be found in our issue this week on the page following this and fully confirms all that has been said in these columns as to the enterprise displayed by that energetic association. Their speed programme will command the attention of the entire horse world of the West and it will not surprise us to see many of the best horses on the western circuits this year competing for the money they so lavishly offer.

Readers will note the fact that only five per cent is charged for entrance to their stakes, that they offer, all told, \$7,525 and that \$2,700 of that is for stakes and \$2,700 of that is for colts and geldings and \$200 for the stallion stake. J. A. Glandon, of Mexico, is secretary and to him all letters should be addressed.

Last Wednesday several of Mexico's sportsmen were hunting duck, snipe and plover near Rush Hill. They had a bunch of decoy ducks, made of solid wood, floating around on the pond. They didn't see any game in that immediate neighborhood so they went off about a half mile, when they heard seven shots, fired at close intervals, in the direction of their decoys. Hastening back they saw a granger, who said: "God darn my skin, I do wish you would kick me good. I shot at them twelve weeks on ducks seven times." None of the birds will float level on account of the weight of lead in one side.

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